
ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



Cora Campbell, Commissioner
Jeff Regnart, Director



Contact:
Dave Harris

Phone: (907) 465-4250
Fax: (907) 465-4944

Juneau Area Office
P.O. Box 11024
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0024
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SOUTHEAST ALASKA HERRING GILLNET SAC ROE FISHERY QUOTA FOR 2013 SEASON

Douglas. . . The Alaska Department of Fish and Game announced today the following concerning the 2013 Seymour Canal gillnet sac roe herring fishery:

Seymour Canal (Section 11-D): The Guideline Harvest Level (GHL) for the Seymour Canal sac roe fishery is **1,014** tons. This GHL is based upon a 3,000 ton threshold level, a forecasted mature spawning biomass of 7,716 tons, and a harvest rate of 13.1%. The forecast indicates the spawning stock will consist of 11% age-3, 28% age-4, 10% age-5, 14% age-6, 7% age-7, and 30% age-8+.

Hobart Bay/Port Houghton (District 10): There will be no commercial fishery. The spawning biomass is forecasted to be 149 tons, which is below the threshold of 2,000 tons that allows for a fishery.

Kah Shakes/Cat Island (Section 1-F): There will be no commercial fishery. No significant spawn event occurred in the Kah Shakes/Cat Island area in 2012 to warrant biomass assessment.

West Behm Canal (Sections 1-E and 1-F): There will be no commercial fishery. This commercial fishery closure is based on a forecasted mature spawning biomass of 2,860 tons for West Behm Canal. This biomass is below the 6,000 ton threshold necessary to conduct a commercial fishery. The forecasted age composition is dominated by age-4 fish due to high age-3 recruitment into the mature 2012 population.

The Board of Fish in January 2006 adopted regulatory language that allows a herring gillnet vessel with two permit holders on board to fish with a net not exceeding 75 fathoms. Fishers will be required to indicate their intention to fish a single or stacked permit when registering for this fishery.

A more detailed summary for all gillnet and purse seine sac roe fisheries will be available in the SOUTHEAST ALASKA SAC ROE HERRING MANAGEMENT PLAN due out in March 2013.

News releases web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

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